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Z 051955Z JAN 73 ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO WHITE HOUSE (ATTN MR DAVID MCHANIS FOR SERIES CHECK)

~~TOP SECRET UMBRA GAMMA CONTROLLED ITEM~~

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VIETNAMESE (SOUTH) CIPHER

XXMMENPO1P0073005

G/00/ -73 (USVNA)

AVS,AVN,KUS/FORP,MILGVB.

SOUTH VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR, WASHINGTON, PROVIDES FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH INFORMATION ON U.S.-SVN TECHNICAL NEGOTIATIONS.

XXCC

FR WASHINGTON: ((EMBASSY));

((AMBASSADOR)) TRAN KIM PHUONG -4 JAN 73

TO SAIGON: ((FOREIGN MINISTRY));

FOREIGN MINISTER TRAN VAN LAM URGENT 02/C/TKP/09/TLK

THE PRESENT ROUND OF TECHNICAL NEGOTIATIONS CONDUCTED BY AMBASSADOR ((WILLIAM)) SULLIVAN AND NGUYEN GO THACH WILL CONCENTRATE MAINLY ON DISCUSSIONS OF MILITARY PROTOCOLS CONCERNING JOINT MILITARY COMMISSIONS, THE CEASE-FIRE IN SOUTH VIETNAM, AND INTERNATIONAL CONTROL COMMISSION SUPERVISION. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS VERY EAGER TO RECEIVE OUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ON THESE DRAFT PROTOCOLS AND URGES US TO COMMUNICATE THEM TO AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN IN PARIS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WITHOUT OUR COMMENTS THEY WOULD HAVE TO GO AHEAD ACCORDING TO THEIR BEST JUDGEMENT AND THEY INTEND TO FINALIZE THEM IN THIS CURRENT ROUND.

ANOTHER PROBLEM OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE IS THE DISCUSSION OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLE OF CEASE-FIRE IN PLACE. THEY WILL DISCUSS THE CRITERIA ACCORDING TO WHICH CONTROL OF TERRITORY CAN BE CLAIMED

\*\*\*\*\*WHSR COMMENT\*\*\*\*\*

HAK,SCONCROFT,HONE,LORD

PSN:026546

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BY EACH PARTY. I WOULD THINK THAT THIS QUESTION WILL BE THE MOST IMPORTANT AND THE MOST DIFFICULT ONE TO SETTLE. THE BASIC AMERICAN CONCEPT IS TO TRY TO AVOID THE NOTION OF CONTROL OF AREAS. THEY WANT TO FREEZE THE COMMUNIST MILITARY UNITS OF REGIMENTAL SIZE AT THEIR PLACE OF STATIONING AND GIVE THEM A CIRCLE OF 5-KILOMETER RADIUS. THE AMERICAN IDEA IS PURELY FOR MILITARY CONSIDERATION AND THE OTHER SIDE IS EXPECTED TO BRING IN THE NOTION OF POLITICAL CONTROL.

I THINK WE HAVE TO WATCH IT VERY CLOSELY AND GIVE THE AMERICAN DELEGATION OUR VIEWPOINT. WHATEVER THEY MAY AGREE NOW WILL BE OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE LATER AS FAR AS THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND IS CONCERNED. I SUGGEST YOU RELAY THIS CABLE TO AMBASSADOR ((PHAM DANG)) LAN IN PARIS AND ASK OUR DELEGATION IN PARIS TO CHECK WITH AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN ON THIS POINT.

XXHH

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